

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

14 JULY 2020 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: MRS L HODGKINS - MAYOR
MR E HOLLICK – DEPUTY MAYOR

Mrs CM Allen, Mr RG Allen, Mr DC Bill MBE, Mr CW Boothby,
Mr SL Bray, Mr MB Cartwright, Mr JMT Collett, Mrs MA Cook,
Mrs MJ Crooks, Mr WJ Crooks, Mr DJ Findlay, Mr REH Flemming,
Mr A Furlong, Mr SM Gibbens, Mrs DT Glenville, Mr MR Lay,
Mr KWP Lynch, Mr K Morrell, Mrs LJ Mullaney, Mr MT Mullaney,
Mr K Nichols, Mr LJP O'Shea, Ms A Pendlebury, Mr RB Roberts,
Mr MC Sheppard-Bools, Mr BR Walker, Mr R Webber-Jones,
Mr HG Williams and Mr P Williams

Officers in attendance: Matthew Bowers, Bill Cullen, Malcolm Evans, Julie Kenny, Rebecca Owen, Sharon Stacey and Ashley Wilson

405 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Smith.

406 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Boothby stated that his name was included in the National Volunteers Week document appended to the report “Coronavirus – the council’s response” but this did not constitute an interest.

407 CORONAVIRUS - THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

Agenda items 3 and 4 (“coronavirus – the council’s response” and “coronavirus – recovery strategy”) were discussed as one item and a single vote taken.

The Leader, echoed by other group leaders, thanked officers for their excellent work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also extended a tribute to all keyworkers, NHS staff and care workers and paid tribute to members for their important roles in the community during the crisis.

The Leader also highlighted two key initiatives and interventions that had been extremely well received by residents and local businesses – the residents support scheme and the business support grant programme. The Leader confirmed the COVID-19 recovery strategy would focus on keeping our residents safe, in jobs and supported, ensuring our local town centres remain vibrant and helping our businesses and tourism destinations survive and thrive.

A member requested that the important role of the communications team be highlighted particularly for their hard work in disseminating information to the public.

It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Allen and

RESOLVED –

- (i) the positive steps taken in response to the coronavirus pandemic be endorsed;
- (ii) the recovery strategy be adopted.

408 CORONAVIRUS - RECOVERY STRATEGY

This item was discussed with the above item (minute 407 refers).

409 COVID 19 RESPONSE: AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

Consideration was given to a report proposing an amendment to the council's constitution following in response to the Business and Planning Bill, specifically in relation to the introduction of pavement licences. It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Nichols and

RESOLVED – the scheme of delegation contained within part 2f of the council's constitution be amended to delegate powers to the Director (Environment & Planning) in respect of pavement licences, when the Business and Planning Bill is enacted.

410 CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

The climate change strategy was presented to Council. Positive work that was being undertaken, including by parish councils, was highlighted and the benefits of holding meetings virtually was raised. A member noted the intention to bring a motion in relation to extending the National Forest to the next meeting of Council. It was moved by Councillor Cartwright, seconded by Councillor Gibbens and

RESOLVED –

- (i) The climate change strategy be approved and further work planned to take place during the following 12 months be acknowledged;
- (ii) The setting up of an expenditure budget of £100,000 funded from the previously agreed reserve to support actions needed to implement the climate change strategy be approved.

411 HINCKLEY CREMATORIUM PROJECT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report which reviewed the progress of the Hinckley crematorium project following the tender period for selection of a main contractor to carry out the construction phase of the project. Members were pleased to see the continuation of cross-party support for the project. A member requested that records should clearly show a trail of costs and profit so the return on investment was easily identifiable.

It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Bray and

RESOLVED –

- (i) The tender sum of £5,070,819.24 for a 50 week programme be noted;
- (ii) The revised budget of £6,915,000 for delivery of the scheme (£1,943,190 supplementary) be approved;
- (iii) The updated business case and proposed in-house management model or via a council wholly owned company (depending on the VAT response obtained from HMRC) be approved.

(The Meeting closed at 7.00 pm)

MAYOR